

# **Foundation of Authentic Ministry**

Sunday July 4, 2021  
Series: Genuine Ministry

*“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them:”  
Romans 12:6 ESV*

## **I. A Biblical Ministry Focus**

**Living Hope exists to MAGNIFY God by BRINGING people to Christ through the Gospel,  
and EQUIPPING them to SERVE Him.**

*“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves...  
Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.” Matthew 7:20 ESV*

*“Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation  
to you, or from you?” 2 Corinthians 3:1 ESV*

*“For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’  
The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a  
friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by all her children.” Luke 7:33–35 ESV*

*“And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall  
have authority over ten cities.’” Luke 19:17 ESV*

*“You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all.  
And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of  
the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.” 2 Corinthians 3:2–3 ESV*

## **II. A Confidence in God’s Calling on My Life**

*“Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves  
to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, who has made us sufficient to be  
ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives  
life.” 2 Corinthians 3:4–6 ESV*

*“We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you  
may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart.”  
2 Corinthians 5:12 ESV*

### III. A Biblical Attitude About My Ministry

#### 1. Boldness

*“Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.”*  
2 Corinthians 3:12–13 ESV

#### 2. Open-hearted to God’s Working

*“But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.”* 2 Corinthians 3:14–16 ESV

*“for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.””* Mark 6:50 ESV

*“for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.”* Mark 6:52 ESV

#### 3. Freedom to Serve Others (Minister)

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”* 2 Corinthians 3:17 ESV

*“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.”* Galatians 5:1 ESV

*“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”* Galatians 5:13 ESV

#### 4. Commitment to Continued Incremental Growth (A Process not an Event)

*“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”* 2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV

#### What is the Lord asking me to work on?

*“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.”*  
Romans 12:6 ESV

